

**IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

An apparatus and system, ~~as well as fabrication methods therefor~~, may include a thermal interface material comprised of an array of carbon nanotubes and a buffer layer disposed between the thermal interface material and one of a die or a heat spreader. In some embodiments the carbon nanotubes may be formed above a buffer layer formed above a surface of the heat spreader.